

Please add the following claims:

31 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises an anion selected from the group consisting of acetate, benzenesulfonate, benzoate, bicarbonate, bitartrate, bromide, calcium edetate, camsylate, carbonate, chloride, citrate, dihydrochloride, edetate, edisylate, estolate, esylate, fumarate, gluceptate, gluconate, glutamate, glycolylarsanilate, hexylresorcinate, hydrabamine, hydrobromide, hydrochloride, hydroxynaphthoate, iodide, isethionate, lactate, lactobionate, malate, maleate, mandelate, mesylate, methylbromide, methylnitrate, methylsulfate, mucate, napsylate, nitrate, pamoate, pantothenate, phosphate or diphosphate, polygalacturonate, salicylate, stearate, subacetate, succinate, sulfate, tannate, tartrate, teoclate, triethiodide, and bicarbonate,

32 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises an anion selected from the group consisting of sulfate, nitrate, gluconate, iodide, bicarbonate, bromide, and phosphate.

33 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises a cation selected from the group consisting of benzathine, chlorprocaine, choline, diethanolamine, ethylenediamine, meglumine, procaine, D-Lysine, L-lysine, D-arginine, L-arginine, triethylammonium, N-methyl D-glycerol, aluminum, calcium, lithium, magnesium, potassium, sodium, zinc, iron, and ammonium.

34 (new). The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises a cation selected from the group consisting of choline, lithium, meglumine, D-lysine, ammonium, magnesium, calcium, and potassium.

35 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises:

an anion selected from the group consisting of sulfate, nitrate, gluconate, iodide, bicarbonate, bromide, and phosphate; and

a cation selected from the group consisting of choline, lithium, meglumine, D-lysine, ammonium, magnesium, calcium, and potassium.

36 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises a single salt.

37 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt comprises a combination of different salts.

38 (new). A method according to claim 37, wherein said different salts have a same anion.

39 (new). A method according to claim 37, wherein said different salts have a same cation.

40 (new). A method according to claim 37, wherein said salt comprises an anion and a cation, and wherein at least one of said anion and said cation are non-absorbable in relation to said airway surface.

41 (new). A method according to claim 37, wherein said salt comprises an anion and a cation, and wherein both of said anion and said cation are non-absorbable in relation to said airway surface.

42 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is selected from the group consisting of:

choline chloride, choline iodide, lithium chloride, meglumine chloride, L-lysine chloride, D-lysine chloride, ammonium chloride, potassium sulfate, potassium nitrate,

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potassium gluconate, potassium iodide, ferric chloride, ferrous chloride, potassium bromide, potassium phosphate, potassium bicarbonate, and sodium bicarbonate.

43 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is selected from the group consisting of:

potassium sulfate, potassium nitrate, potassium gluconate, potassium iodide, potassium bromide, potassium phosphate, and potassium bicarbonate.

44 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium sulfate, potassium nitrate, potassium gluconate, potassium iodide, potassium bromide, potassium phosphate, and potassium bicarbonate.

45 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium nitrate.

46 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium gluconate.

47 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium iodide.

48 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium bromide.

49 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium phosphate.

50 (new). A method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one salt is potassium bicarbonate.

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